

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An airbag assembly comprising:
an inflatable cushion;
a throat in the cushion for receiving an inflator into the cushion; and
a precision opening in the cushion for receiving an inflator squib, the opening having a diameter corresponding in size to the inflator squib, wherein the inflator comprises a housing and the squib, wherein the throat is sealed by wrapping the throat around an inflator housing, wherein the opening is a precision lasered hole to minimize the passage of inflation fluid through the opening when circumscribing the inflator squib.

Claim 2 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the inflatable cushion is constructed of fabric material.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein ~~the throat is sealable to prevent the passage of~~ inflation fluid is prevented from passing through the throat upon activation of the inflator.

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (previously presented): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein an electrical connection to the inflator is located on the inflator squib.

Claim 7 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 6, wherein the inflator squib projects out of the opening to outside the inflatable cushion and the inflator housing is contained within the inflatable cushion.

Claim 8 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 7, wherein the inflator squib has a diameter smaller than a diameter of a portion of the inflator housing.

Claim 9 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the inflatable cushion is a knee airbag.

Claim 10 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the inflatable cushion is a side airbag.

Claim 11 (previously presented): An airbag assembly, comprising:
an inflatable fabric cushion;
a throat in the inflatable cushion for providing an ingress to insert an inflator into an interior of the inflatable cushion; and
a precision lasered hole in the inflatable cushion for receiving an inflator squib, the hole having a diameter equivalent to a diameter of the inflator squib, wherein the inflator comprises a housing and the squib, wherein the throat is wrapped around the inflator housing to seal the throat closed.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The airbag assembly of claim 11, wherein ~~the throat is sealable to prevent the passage of~~ inflation fluid is prevented from passing through the throat upon activation of the inflator.

Claim 13 (previously amended): The airbag assembly of claim 12, wherein an electrical connection to the inflator is located on the inflator squib.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): The airbag assembly of claim 13 44, wherein the inflator squib projects out of the hole to outside the inflatable cushion while the inflator housing is contained within the inflatable cushion.

Claim 16 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 15, wherein the inflator squib has a diameter smaller than a diameter of a portion of the inflator housing.

Claim 17 (previously presented): An airbag assembly, comprising:
an inflatable fabric cushion;
an inflator having a housing and a squib, the inflator being partially contained *within* the inflatable cushion;
a throat in the inflatable cushion through which the inflator can be inserted into the inflatable cushion; and
a precision opening in the inflatable cushion through which the inflator squib projects to the outside of the inflatable cushion, the opening having a diameter corresponding in size to a diameter of the inflator squib, wherein the throat is sealed by wrapping the throat around the inflator housing.

Claim 18 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 17, wherein the opening is a precision lasered hole to minimize the passage of inflation fluid through the opening when circumscribing the inflator squib.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The airbag assembly of claim 17, wherein ~~the throat is wrapped around the inflator housing to seal the throat closed to prevent the passage of~~ inflation fluid is prevented from passing through the throat upon activation of the inflator.

Claim 20 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 17, wherein the inflator squib has a diameter smaller than a diameter of a portion of the inflator housing.

Claim 21 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 19, wherein the inflator has orthogonally projecting mounting studs, and the throat includes orifices corresponding in size to the mounting studs, the orifices engaging the mounting studs when the throat is wrapped around the inflator.

Claim 22 (original): An airbag assembly, comprising:
an inflator having a housing, a squib, and mounting studs projecting orthogonally from the housing;

an inflatable fabric cushion having a plurality of orifices corresponding in size to the mounting studs;

a throat in the inflatable cushion through which the inflator can be inserted into the inflatable cushion; and

a precision lasered hole in the inflatable cushion through which the inflator squib projects to the outside of the inflatable cushion, the hole having a diameter equivalent to a diameter of the inflator squib.

Claim 23 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 22, wherein the throat is wrapped around the inflator housing to seal the throat closed to prevent the passage of inflation fluid through the throat.

Claim 24 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 23, wherein the orifices engage the mounting studs when the throat is wrapped around the inflator.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A method for maintaining a high internal pressure of a fabric airbag, comprising:

obtaining an inflatable fabric cushion having a throat;

forming a hole in the fabric cushion with a diameter the same size as a diameter of an inflator squib;

inserting an inflator into the fabric cushion through the throat, the inflator having a housing and a squib;

projecting the inflator squib outside the hole in the fabric cushion while maintaining the inflator housing inside the fabric cushion; and

sealing the throat to prevent the passage of inflation fluid through the throat, wherein the throat is sealed by wrapping the throat around the inflator housing.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 25, wherein the hole is formed in the fabric cushion through the use of a laser.

Claim 27 (canceled)